

IN THE SPECIFICATION

(1) On page 3, please amend lines 26-28 as follows:

A further object of the present invention is to provide a small synthetic ribonucleic acid sequence
GGGA GGC CCTCTCG GTAGA ACACCA TGACGGA
CTATCCCACGAACGCTCACGGGGCCCTCC (SEQ ID No. 1).

(2) On page 7, please amend lines 16-20 as follows:

FIG. 6: SL III e+f (A297G) (~~A297G~~) RNA fails to bind to S5 ribosomal protein and does not inhibit HCV IRES-mediated translation.

~~In the results FIG. 5A and B seem to indicate binding of HeLa lysate and purified S5 protein with all the small RNAs. Please check.~~

(A) Representation of the SL III e+f RNA (SEQ ID No. 2) showing the mutation of A297 to G (SEQ ID No. 3).